

MONICA DE LA CRUZ
FIFTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS



OFFICES

1415 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
202.225.9901

1400 N McCOLL RD STE 103
MCALLEN, TX 78501
956.800.6069

112 N TRAVIS ST
SEGUIN, TX 78155
830.463.0800

DELACRUZ.HOUSE.GOV
@RepMonicaDLC

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
VICE CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NUTRITION AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
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HOUSING AND INSURANCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

5/15/2025

Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security,
Department of State, and Related
Programs
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Lois Frankel
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Security,
Department of State, and Related
Programs
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Lois Frankel,

I would like to respectfully ask that the requests below be included in the fiscal year 26 National Security and Department of State Appropriations bill. These items were included with the fiscal year 2025 bill.

Requests:

- *The Committee recommendation includes a total of \$250,350,000 for International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, including \$81,800,000 for Salaries and Expenses and \$168,550,000 for Construction.*
- *Economic Impact study - Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the United States Commissioner of the IBWC, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations consisting of a comprehensive economic impact study on the Colorado River and Rio Grande. Such report shall include the impact, including a sector-level analysis, of each river on the economies of the United States and Mexico. Further, the report shall include an analysis of losses suffered by either economy as a result of delayed water deliveries.*

- *Feasibility study.*—Following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, the United States Commissioner of the IBWC shall conduct a feasibility study of a five-year rolling window for water deliveries from the Rio Grande. Such feasibility study shall evaluate whether this approach would provide more reliable and predictable water deliveries. Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the findings.
- *Release of effluent.*—The Committee remains concerned about the adverse impact on communities in the United States from the release of effluent from Mexico, including from the Tijuana River. The Committee directs the Secretary of State and the United States Commissioner of the IBWC to continue engaging with the Government of Mexico to take appropriate steps to facilitate longterm resolutions. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall update the report required under this heading in House Report 118–146.
- *Water deliveries.*—The Committee directs the Department of State, in coordination with the IBWC, to implement the 1944 Water Treaty between the United States and Mexico in a manner that assures reliable, annual water flow from Mexico to the United States. It is critical for the agrarian economy that South Texas farmers receive reliable, annual water flow from the Rio Grande in accordance with the Treaty. The Committee notes that section 7045(h) of this Act includes limitations with respect to water deliveries to the United States from Mexico.
- *WATER DELIVERIES.*—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for assistance for Mexico until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the United States and Mexico have entered into an agreement to balance the deficit of water deliveries to the United States by Mexico, as prescribed by Article 4, Section B of the Treaty Between the United States of America and Mexico Relating to the Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219): Provided, That the limitation of this paragraph shall not apply to funds made available to counter the flow of fentanyl, fentanyl precursors, and other synthetic drugs into the United States.

Thank you for your attention to these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Monica De La Cruz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monica De La Cruz
Member of Congress
15th District of Texas